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Scott still unpopular, would lose to Sink, Crist

Raleigh, N.C. – Gov. Rick Scott has improved in voters' minds, with 36% approving and 52% disapproving of his job performance, versus 33-59 when PPP last polled Florida in June. But Scott still has scant company at the bottom of the well of governors. He had been the absolute least popular chief executive in the country, and he is now joined by Connecticut's Dan Malloy and Ohio's John Kasich. Scott has improved a bit with both Democrats and Republicans, with Democrats still disliking him far more than his own party likes him. But the main shift has occurred with independents, from 27-64 to 35-52.

Accordingly, Scott would fare a little better in a hypothetical do-over election with the Democrat he barely beat last fall than he did in the June poll. Then, Alex Sink routed Scott, 57-35, but he would fall "only" 52-41 now. That compares to his actual one-point win. Unlike with his approval rating, independents have not budged, still favoring Sink by 21 points, versus Scott's eight-point lead with them in 2010 exit polls. Scott's improvement is with his own party, from a 68-23 lead to 78-17. But that is still down from his 88-10 dominance last fall.

Voters have basically the reverse opinion of Scott's predecessor, and they would love to have him back. 51% see Charlie Crist favorably, and 34% unfavorably. When PPP last asked about Crist in March, his favorability rating was only 46-42. All of the movement in the last half year has come with Democrats and independents. Crist will probably never regain favor with his former party, only a third of whom now see him positively, versus two-thirds of Democrats and 47% of independents.

Crist's best ballot line for future runs for office would be as a Democrat. 45% think he should join that party, with only 25% thinking he should not. That is 55-20 among Democrats, who would welcome him far more than Republicans and independents want to exile him. If Crist were to oppose Scott in three years, he would beat him, 51-38. That is down from 56-34 in June, but still a better challenge than Sink would give Scott.

PPP surveyed 476 Florida voters from September 22nd to 25th. The margin of error for the survey is +/-4.5%. This poll was not paid for or authorized by any campaign or political organization. PPP surveys are conducted through automated telephone interviews. PPP is a Democratic polling company, but polling expert Nate Silver of the *New York Times* found that its surveys in 2010 actually exhibited a slight bias toward Republican candidates.



Florida Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Rick Scott's job performance?

Approve 36%
Disapprove..... 52%
Not sure 11%

Q2 If you could do last year's election for Governor over again, would you vote for Republican Rick Scott or Democrat Alex Sink?

Rick Scott..... 41%
Alex Sink..... 52%
Not sure 7%

Q3 Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Charlie Crist?

Favorable..... 51%
Unfavorable 34%
Not sure 15%

Q4 Do you think Charlie Crist should become a Democrat or not?

He should..... 45%
He should not..... 25%
Not sure 30%

Q5 If the candidates for Governor next time were Republican Rick Scott and Charlie Crist, running as a Democrat, who would you vote for?

Rick Scott..... 38%
Charlie Crist..... 51%
Not sure 11%

Q6 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 45%
Barack Obama..... 48%
Someone else/Don't remember 7%

Q7 Would you describe yourself as very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, or very conservative?

Very liberal..... 10%
Somewhat liberal 14%
Moderate..... 32%
Somewhat conservative..... 27%
Very conservative 16%

Q8 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%

Q9 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

Democrat 40%
Republican..... 37%
Independent/Other..... 23%

Q10 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If African-American, press 3. If other, press 4.

Hispanic..... 16%
White 67%
African-American 12%
Other..... 6%

Q11 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

18 to 29..... 16%
30 to 45..... 22%
46 to 65..... 36%
Older than 65..... 26%



Q12 Are you Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, another religion, or no religion at all?

<i>Jewish</i>	5%
<i>Catholic</i>	27%
<i>Protestant</i>	51%
<i>Another religion</i>	5%
<i>No religion at all</i>	10%
<i>Don't care to say</i>	1%



Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Scott Approval				
Approve	36%	65%	11%	27%
Disapprove	52%	22%	84%	33%
Not sure	11%	13%	5%	40%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Scott/Sink Re-do				
Rick Scott	41%	79%	6%	33%
Alex Sink	52%	15%	88%	38%
Not sure	7%	6%	5%	30%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Crist Favorability				
Favorable	51%	33%	71%	24%
Unfavorable	34%	53%	15%	51%
Not sure	15%	15%	14%	25%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Should Crist Become a Dem ?				
He should	45%	35%	54%	44%
He should not	25%	33%	20%	12%
Not sure	30%	31%	26%	44%





Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Scott/Crist				
Rick Scott	38%	73%	6%	31%
Charlie Crist	51%	15%	86%	41%
Not sure	11%	12%	8%	28%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Scott Approval						
Approve	36%	7%	9%	25%	50%	81%
Disapprove	52%	90%	81%	65%	33%	10%
Not sure	11%	3%	11%	10%	17%	9%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Scott/Sink Re-do						
Rick Scott	41%	3%	11%	24%	66%	85%
Alex Sink	52%	90%	85%	66%	28%	7%
Not sure	7%	7%	4%	9%	7%	8%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Crist Favorability						
Favorable	51%	62%	71%	61%	40%	21%
Unfavorable	34%	20%	17%	22%	46%	66%
Not sure	15%	18%	13%	17%	14%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Should Crist Become a Dem?						
He should	45%	53%	61%	41%	34%	50%
He should not	25%	19%	16%	27%	35%	17%
Not sure	30%	28%	23%	32%	31%	32%

	Base	Ideology				
		Very liberal	Somewhat liberal	Moderate	Somewhat conservative	Very conservative
Scott/Crist						
Rick Scott	38%	2%	5%	21%	61%	86%
Charlie Crist	51%	80%	89%	68%	25%	7%
Not sure	11%	18%	7%	11%	13%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Scott Approval			
Approve	36%	37%	36%
Disapprove	52%	53%	52%
Not sure	11%	11%	12%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Scott/Sink Re-do			
Rick Scott	41%	39%	43%
Alex Sink	52%	54%	50%
Not sure	7%	8%	7%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Crist Favorability			
Favorable	51%	51%	50%
Unfavorable	34%	33%	36%
Not sure	15%	16%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Should Crist Become a Dem ?			
He should	45%	41%	48%
He should not	25%	26%	25%
Not sure	30%	33%	27%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Scott/Crist			
Rick Scott	38%	37%	39%
Charlie Crist	51%	54%	48%
Not sure	11%	9%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Scott Approval				
Approve	36%	16%	60%	35%
Disapprove	52%	79%	23%	52%
Not sure	11%	5%	17%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Scott/Sink Re-do				
Rick Scott	41%	11%	78%	35%
Alex Sink	52%	81%	17%	56%
Not sure	7%	8%	5%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Crist Favorability				
Favorable	51%	66%	35%	47%
Unfavorable	34%	21%	52%	30%
Not sure	15%	13%	13%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Should Crist Become a Dem ?				
He should	45%	55%	37%	38%
He should not	25%	20%	34%	22%
Not sure	30%	24%	30%	40%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Scott/Crist				
Rick Scott	38%	9%	72%	33%
Charlie Crist	51%	83%	16%	51%
Not sure	11%	8%	11%	16%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Scott Approval					
Approve	36%	33%	42%	10%	38%
Disapprove	52%	66%	44%	79%	62%
Not sure	11%	2%	15%	11%	-

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Scott/Sink Re-do					
Rick Scott	41%	30%	51%	6%	28%
Alex Sink	52%	60%	43%	85%	68%
Not sure	7%	9%	7%	9%	4%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Crist Favorability					
Favorable	51%	52%	49%	55%	55%
Unfavorable	34%	28%	38%	23%	28%
Not sure	15%	20%	13%	22%	16%

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Should Crist Become a Dem ?					
He should	45%	47%	41%	58%	49%
He should not	25%	31%	27%	13%	22%
Not sure	30%	21%	32%	30%	29%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race			
		Hispanic	White	African-American	Other
Scott/Crist					
Rick Scott	38%	24%	47%	12%	19%
Charlie Crist	51%	70%	41%	79%	68%
Not sure	11%	7%	12%	9%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Scott Approval					
Approve	36%	26%	36%	36%	44%
Disapprove	52%	62%	51%	56%	43%
Not sure	11%	13%	13%	8%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Scott/Sink Re-do					
Rick Scott	41%	21%	40%	44%	50%
Alex Sink	52%	69%	51%	53%	40%
Not sure	7%	10%	9%	3%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Crist Favorability					
Favorable	51%	54%	58%	49%	44%
Unfavorable	34%	23%	28%	38%	42%
Not sure	15%	23%	13%	13%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Should Crist Become a Dem ?					
He should	45%	49%	42%	47%	41%
He should not	25%	26%	30%	23%	25%
Not sure	30%	26%	28%	30%	34%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Scott/Crist					
Rick Scott	38%	26%	36%	38%	47%
Charlie Crist	51%	62%	57%	51%	41%
Not sure	11%	13%	8%	11%	12%

	Base	Religion					
		Jewish	Catholic	Protestant	Another religion	No religion at all	Don't care to say
Scott Approval							
Approve	36%	11%	39%	40%	42%	24%	25%
Disapprove	52%	81%	50%	49%	32%	67%	56%
Not sure	11%	8%	11%	11%	26%	9%	19%

	Base	Religion					
		Jewish	Catholic	Protestant	Another religion	No religion at all	Don't care to say
Scott/Sink Re-do							
Rick Scott	41%	11%	41%	47%	50%	23%	34%
Alex Sink	52%	78%	48%	47%	50%	73%	47%
Not sure	7%	10%	12%	6%	-	4%	19%





Crosstabs

	Base	Religion					
		Jewish	Catholic	Protestant	Another religion	No religion at all	Don't care to say
Crist Favorability							
Favorable	51%	67%	52%	46%	69%	52%	56%
Unfavorable	34%	26%	31%	40%	31%	22%	34%
Not sure	15%	8%	17%	14%	-	27%	9%

	Base	Religion					
		Jewish	Catholic	Protestant	Another religion	No religion at all	Don't care to say
Should Crist Become a Dem ?							
He should	45%	71%	42%	41%	37%	54%	81%
He should not	25%	18%	30%	27%	30%	9%	9%
Not sure	30%	10%	28%	32%	33%	37%	9%

	Base	Religion					
		Jewish	Catholic	Protestant	Another religion	No religion at all	Don't care to say
Scott/Crist							
Rick Scott	38%	7%	41%	42%	45%	20%	50%
Charlie Crist	51%	82%	49%	46%	50%	65%	41%
Not sure	11%	10%	10%	11%	5%	15%	9%

